



Pullman Porters Photograph Worksheet

You have already seen the exhibit, *Pullman Porters: From Service to Civil Rights* at the National Railroad Museum and learned about the Pullman porters. Photographs are a good way to learn more information about the lives of the people and other minority railroad workers. Look at your photograph and answer each question to learn more about the Pullman porters.

1. Describe the image in the photograph. What kind of clothing are the people wearing? What are the subjects in the photograph doing? What kind of things are around the subject of the photograph?
2. What does the clothing tell you about the subject of the photograph? Are they in uniform or work clothes? What type of job would be done in this type of clothing?
3. Approximately when was this photograph taken? Hint: Clothing styles, cars, and other things change from year to year. Using other photographs and books as a resource, try to match something in the photograph with something of which you already know the date.
4. Pullman porters helped people on the train during the day. At night they needed to do chores as part of their job. What part of the day do you think this photograph was taken? When do you think that porters and other minority rail workers could rest?
5. Think about when this photograph was taken. Is the job shown a job that all people would do or is it a job that was only open to minorities? Why?
6. Who has a better job in this photograph? If your photograph only has one person, who on the train would have a better job than the person in the image? Is this fair? Why or why not?
7. Compare and contrast how the image fits with how you understand history. Does the image show you something that you already know? Does it show you anything that you did not know? Describe.



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